

## INTERSEXUALITY AND PROBLEMS OF LEGAL RECOGNITION

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### Abstract

Changes in life of society, freedom of individuals rise new challenges, and one of them is the recognition of a third / non-who or X gender. Gender is no longer just a physical expression, it is a more perceived interpretation. The binary apportionment of gender is no longer so strict, because it leaves the position of a different gender perspective - not as a biological, but social expression, and opens up the requirements for recognizing intersexuality, which, as analyzed in this presentation, is defined as a multidimensional concept, is often equated with hermaphrodisism, the third gender, transexuality and etc. Presentation shows that intersexuality must be determined not by violence but by research and free choice. Here is an overview of the experience of Germany and Australia with a view to implementing the appropriate legal framework in this area.

**Purpose** of this presentation is to analyze the concept of intersexuality and legal issues by reviewing the experience of Germany and Australia in order to implement proper legal regulation in this area.

**Design/methodology/approach** – the analysis of scientific literature, the analysis of legal acts, the logical method, generalization, the comparative method.

**Finding** – The analysis of the concept of intersexuality has shown that this concept needs to be used in the more clear context, separating intersexuality from transexuality, using the concepts of hermaphrodisism and third gender in right way. It looks like there is a lack of correct, clear and specific information to define these concepts.

**Research limitations** – statistical information was not found about number of intersexuals and their status in Lithuania.

**Practical implications** – this presentation could be significant for education of society, for understanding the concept of intersexuality, differences from transsexuality, legal problems and making it more clear.

**Originality/Value** – new topic in Lithuania; was found that the concept of intersexuality should be used in more clear context. The experience of Germany and Australia in this field could be a good example to develop rights of intersexual people in other countries.

**Keywords:** hermaphrodite, intersexuality, third sex

**Research type:** general review.